

Appln. No. 10/625,151
Amendment dated December 15, 2008
Reply to Office Action mailed September 18, 2008

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
receiving a request from an electronic device for a product code for a previously purchased product, the request including an identification from ~~[[[an]]]~~ the electronic device;
finding a product code associated with the identification; and
sending the product code to the electronic device;
wherein the product code enables use of ~~[[[a]]]~~ the product on the electronic device, said product not being usable on the electronic device until being enabled with the product code.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
copying the product code to a database when the product is purchased, the copying the product code to the database including associating the product code with the identification in the database.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the finding the product code further comprises finding the product code in the database using the identification of the received request.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
copying the product code to a database when the product and the electronic device are purchased.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the identification identifies the electronic device.

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6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the identification identifies a customer.

7. through 22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
means for receiving a request from an electronic device for a product code for a previously purchased product, the request including an identification from [[[an]]] the electronic device;
means for finding a product code associated with the identification;
and
means for sending the product code to the electronic device;
wherein the product code enables use of a product on the electronic device, said product not being usable on the electronic device until being enabled with the product code.

24. through 33. (Cancelled)

34. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
sending the product code and the identification to a server when the product is purchased; and
copying the product code and the identification to a database on the server.

35. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
retrieving the product code from the server to enable use of the product on the electronic device when the product is reinstalled on the electronic device.

36. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
inserting the product code into an installation routine for reinstalling the previously purchased product to enable use of the product on the electronic device.

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37. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
loading the product onto the electronic device by a manufacturer of the electronic device;
loading the product code for the product onto the electronic device;
and
copying the product code and the identification associated with the product code to a database to permit future retrieval of the product code using the identification.
38. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the request for the product code is sent by the electronic device during an attempt to install the product on the electronic device.
39. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the request for the product code is sent by the electronic device as a part of an installation process to install the product on the electronic device.
40. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the request by the electronic device is transmitted over a network, and the product code is sent over the network to the electronic device.
41. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the product was previously loaded on the electronic device making the request, and the request for the product code is made as part of a reinstallation process for the product on the electronic device.
42. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the sending of the product code does not include sending the product for which the product code enables use.

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43. (New) A method comprising:

loading a product onto an electronic device by a manufacturer of the electronic device;

loading the product code for the product onto the electronic device to enable use of the product on the electronic device;

copying the product code and an identification associated with the product code to a database to permit future retrieval of the product code using the identification;

receiving a request from the electronic device for the product code for the product, the request including the identification from the electronic device;

searching the database using the identification to find the product code associated with the identification; and

sending the product code to the electronic device to permit reinstallation of the product on the electronic device utilizing the product code;

wherein the product code enables use of the product on the electronic device, said product not being usable on the electronic device until being enabled with the product code.

44. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a controller including a processor; and

a storage device, wherein the storage device includes instructions, which when executed on the processor cause the controller to:

receive a request from an electronic device for a product code for a previously purchased product, the request including an identification from the electronic device;

find a product code associated with the identification; and

send the product code to the electronic device;

wherein the product code enables use of a product on the electronic device, said product not being usable on the electronic device until being enabled with the product code.

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45. (New) A method comprising:

loading a product onto an electronic device by a manufacturer of the electronic device;

loading the product code for the product onto the electronic device to enable use of the product on the electronic device;

copying the product code and an identification associated with the product code to a database to permit future retrieval of the product code using the identification;

receiving a request for the product code for the product previously loaded on the electronic device, the request including the identification from the electronic device, the request being transmitted during an installation process for the product;

searching the database using the identification to find the product code associated with the identification; and

sending the product code to the electronic device to permit reinstallation of the product on the electronic device utilizing the product code;

wherein the product code enables use of the product on the electronic device, said product not being usable on the electronic device until being enabled with the product code.